Translation

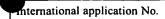
PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT 10/069,104

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference SOL 99/036	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)								
International application No.	International filing date (day/month	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·							
PCT/FR00/02370	25 August 2000 (25.08.0	26 August 1999 (26.08.99)							
International Patent Classification (IPC) or n G01T 1/40	national classification and IPC								
Applicant SOLLAC									
Authority and is transmitted to the a	applicant according to Article 36.	by this International Preliminary Examining							
2. This REPORT consists of a total of									
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I Basis of the report II Priority Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability									
Lack of unity of invention V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement									
VI Certain documents cited VII Certain defects in the international application VIII Certain observations on the international application									
	···	· 							
Date of submission of the demand	Date of cor	Date of completion of this report							
22 March 2001 (22.0	3.01)	04 February 2002 (04.02.2002)							
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized	Authorized officer							
Facsimile No.	Telephone	No.							



PCT/FR00/02370

I. Basis of the report							
1. This report under Article	has been drawn of the 14 are referred to	on the basis of in this report as	(Replacement shee "originally filed"	ets which have been furnished to to and are not annexed to the re	the receiving Office in response to an invitation port since they do not contain amendments.):		
\boxtimes	the international						
	the description,	pages	2-6	, as originally filed,			
		pages		, filed with the demand,			
		pages	1,1a	, filed with the letter of	28 November 2001 (28.11.2001) ,		
		pages		, filed with the letter of			
	the claims,	-		, as originally filed,			
		Nos		, as amended under Article	e 19,		
		Nos		, filed with the demand,			
		Nos	1-12	, filed with the letter of	28 November 2001 (28.11.2001) ,		
		Nos.		, filed with the letter of			
	the drawings,	sheets/fig	1/2,2/2	, as originally filed,			
		sheets/fig		, filed with the demand,			
		sheets/fig		, filed with the letter of _			
		sheets/fig	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	, filed with the letter of	·		
2. The amend	ments have result	ed in the cance	llation of:				
	the description,	pages		-			
	the claims,	Nos		_			
	the drawings,	sheets/fig					
	3 ,	· ·			•		
to go		osure as filed,		mendments had not been mad he Supplemental Box (Rule 70	le, since they have been considered 0.2(c)).		
				•			
					4		

International application No.
PCT/FR 00/02370

V.	Reasoned statement under Article 3stations and explanations supporting	5(2) with regard to nov g such statement	elty, inventive step or industrial applica	bility;
1.	Statement			
,	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-12	YES
	• • •	Claims		NO NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-12	YES
	mventive step (15)	Claims		NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-12	YES
		Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following document:

D1: EP-A-0 066 763 (GEN ELECTRIC) 15 December 1982 (1982-12-15).

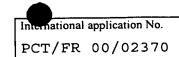
 Technical field: Measuring luminous intensity using photomultipliers.

The closest prior art D1 (cited on page 1 of the international application) describes an apparatus with automatic gain control for a gamma camera. Diodes send pulsed light onto a photomultiplier cathode in order to continuously calibrate the amplification during use.

The subject matter of **Claim 1** (device) therefore differs from D1 in that it includes:

- means for turning off the radiation source or closing off the radiation to be measured, and
- means for activating the calibration source only during periods of extinction or closing off of the radiation.

Thus, the measurements obtained during the calibration phases and those obtained during the

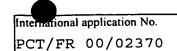


measurement phases proper can be separated. The calibration measurements are therefore unresponsive to the gain deviations and fluctuations of the photomultiplier and they can be deduced from the effective measurements. An improvement of the measurements is thus achieved.

The subject matter of the claim, leading to the solution to the problem is neither known from nor suggested by the prior art D1 or other documents cited in the international search report.

Claim 1 therefore satisfies the PCT requirements of novelty and inventive step (PCT Article 33(2) and (3)).

- Claims 2-12 are dependent on Claim 1 and therefore likewise satisfy, as such, the PCT requirements of novelty and inventive step.
- 3. The industrial applicability of the subject matter of Claims 1-12 is obvious (PCT Article 33(4)).



VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

1. Clarity (PCT Article 6)

- 1.1 The dependence of Claim 12 on the preceding claims is incorrect, given that device (method) claims can be dependent only on device (method) claims. Claim 9 is not a method claim.
- 1.2 Claim 12 lacks clarity because it does not contain the features necessary for the definition of the invention. Indeed, the method steps according to which the thickness of a material is measured by using the device or the method of the preceding claims are not defined (PCT Rule 6.3(b); PCT Guidelines, Section IV, Chapter III-4.4).